Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-24 and 36-45 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 37-40, 43, and 44 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 37, and 38 are sought to be amended. New claims 39-45 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Personal Interview Held June 23, 2009

Applicants' representatives would like to thank the Examiner for the personal interview held on June 23, 2009. During the interview, differences between Applicants' claims and the cited references were discussed. Although no particular claim language was agreed to, the above amendments address the issues discussed during the interview, and are therefore believed to overcome the rejections.

The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112 were also discussed. The above claim amendments are based on the discussion with regard to these rejections. The Examiner indicated that the amendments would overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112.

As always, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any recommendations which would better place the claims in condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected claim 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have amended claim 38 to accommodate the Examiner's rejection. Claim 38 now recites, *inter alia*, "the generic software component stored on a tangible computer-readable medium and configured to be executed by a computing device." Accordingly, claim 38 recites statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. Without acquiescing to the propriety of the rejection, Applicants have amended claim 37 to accommodate the Examiner's rejection. Claim 37 now recites, *inter alia*, "the voice application stored on a tangible computer-readable medium." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-11, 16-24, and 36-38

Claims 1, 3-11, 16-24, and 36-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,173,266 to Marx et al. ("Marx") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,182,045 to Kredo et al. ("Kredo"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner alleges that Marx discloses, "wherein the deployment includes an instance of the repository," a reference to the claim language prior to the Preliminary Amendment of December 31, 2008. (Office Action, p. 5). This claim language was amended in the Preliminary Amendment to read, "wherein the deployment environment provides remote-streaming runtime access to the remote central repository."

Nevertheless, the Examiner subsequently states that "Marx does not explicitly teach that the external data source or host computer stores dialog system files that are utilized in development and runtime deployment," instead relying on Kredo to support the missing teachings. The Examiner asserts that "Marx and Kredo are analogous art because they are from a similar field of endeavor in voice application management." (Office Action, p. 6).

The Examiner's rejection appears to use Kredo to state, to which Applicants do not acquiesce, that the service dialog modules of Marx can be located externally using the audio server of Kredo. (Office Action, p. 5). This is insufficient to teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

Claim 1, as amended, recites, *inter alia*, "developing a specific voice application utilizing at least one generic software component in a development environment, the specific voice application *configured to access a generic dialog asset from a remote central repository via a remote repository interface*" and "deploying the specific voice application in a deployment environment *located on a deployment platform separate from a development platform* running the development environment, wherein the specific voice application is configured to access the generic dialog asset from the remote central repository."

There is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation in the references that would lead one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kredo to provide its "audio server" in both a development and deployment environment. Kredo says nothing about a development environment whatsoever. Modifying Kredo to support an "audio server" available to both a development environment and a deployment environment would render Kredo unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, which is to provide "a universal access method and system for the *maintenance of audio announcements*." (Kredo, col. 1, ll. 50-51). Any such modification would wrest control of the "audio server" from a maintainer of the Kredo system, and would bestow this control upon a developer, which is nowhere to be found in Kredo.

Marx does not supply the missing teaching or suggestion. Specifically, the combination of Marx and Kredo does not teach or suggest, at a minimum, "developing a specific voice application ... in a development environment ... configured to access a generic dialog asset from a remote central repository," where the "specific voice application configured to access the generic dialog asset from the remote central

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repository" is "deploy[ed] … in a deployment environment *located on a deployment platform separate from a development platform*," as recited in claim 1

Marx is directed to "customiz[ing] the features of a Service … which allows the developer to change the parameters (and behavior during execution) of the Service without having to recompile the service." (Marx, col. 17, ll. 44-48). Marx further states that "features can be customized through runtime application programming interfaces contained within the dialog modules." (Marx, col. 17, ll. 48-50). The Examiner appears to argue, to which Applicants do not acquiesce, that by placing these modules on an external server, such as the "audio server" of Kredo, the references teach or suggest the usage of a "remote central repository" as in claim 1. However, there is clearly no teaching or suggestion of a "deployment platform separate from a development platform" in the combination of Marx and Kredo.

Nowhere does the combination of Marx and Kredo teach or suggest a "specific voice application configured to access a generic dialog asset from a remote central repository" in *both* a development environment and a deployment environment "located on a deployment platform separate from a development platform," as recited in claim 1.

The above-referenced section of Marx appears to suggest that any development and deployment occurs within the same environment, and merely moving the modules to the "audio server" of Kredo does not remedy this deficiency. Any modules in Marx available during the development or deployment thereof are the same modules in both cases, even if they are stored remotely using Kredo. However, it is clearly not the case that Marx and Kredo teach or suggest access to a same remote central repository from

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both a development environment and a deployment environment "located on a deployment platform separate from a development platform," as recited in claim 1.

For at least the aforementioned reasons, independent claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Marx and Kredo. Moreover, dependent claims 3-11, 16-24, and 36 are also not rendered obvious by the combination of Marx and Kredo for at least the same reasons as claim 1, from which they depend, and further in view of their own respective features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-11, 16-24, and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 37 recites, *inter alia*, "wherein a generic software component is used to develop the voice application in a development platform separate from the deployment platform, wherein the voice application is configured to access the generic dialog asset via a remote repository interface," and "accessing the remote central repository at runtime through remote-streaming." Claim 38 recites, *inter alia*, "wherein the voice application in a deployment environment located on a deployment platform separate from the development platform is configured to access the remote central repository at runtime through remote-streaming," and "a generic software component used to develop the voice application, which accesses the generic dialog asset via the remote repository interface." Claims 37 and 38 are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above with regard to independent claim 1, and further in view of their own respective features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 12-15

Claims 2 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly obvious over Marx in view of Kredo and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,915,001 to Uppaluru ("Uppaluru"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As noted above with regard to claim 1, the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness over the combination of Marx and Kredo. Uppaluru does not supply the missing teachings or suggestions, and is not used by the Examiner in formulating a rejection regarding the features of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Marx, Kredo, and Uppaluru.

Claims 2 and 12-15 are therefore not rendered obvious by the combination of Marx, Kredo, and Uppaluru for at least the same reasons as claim 1, from which they depend, and further in view of their own respective features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

New Claims

Applicants seek entry of new claims 39-45. Claims 39, 40, 43, and 44 recite similar features as claim 1, using analogous language, and are therefore in condition for allowance for similar reasons as those provided above. Claims 41 and 42 depend from claim 40 and are also in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as claim 40. Claim 45 depends from claim 37 and is also in condition for allowance for at least the

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same reasons as claim 37. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry and allowance of claims 39-45.
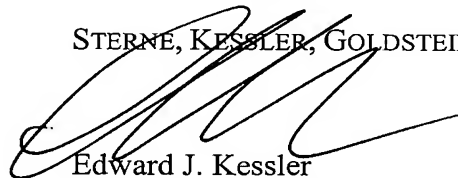
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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